Blitz Phoenix

Chapter 13: Blood in the Water

Emily Brackhan

http://www.blitzphoenix.com/

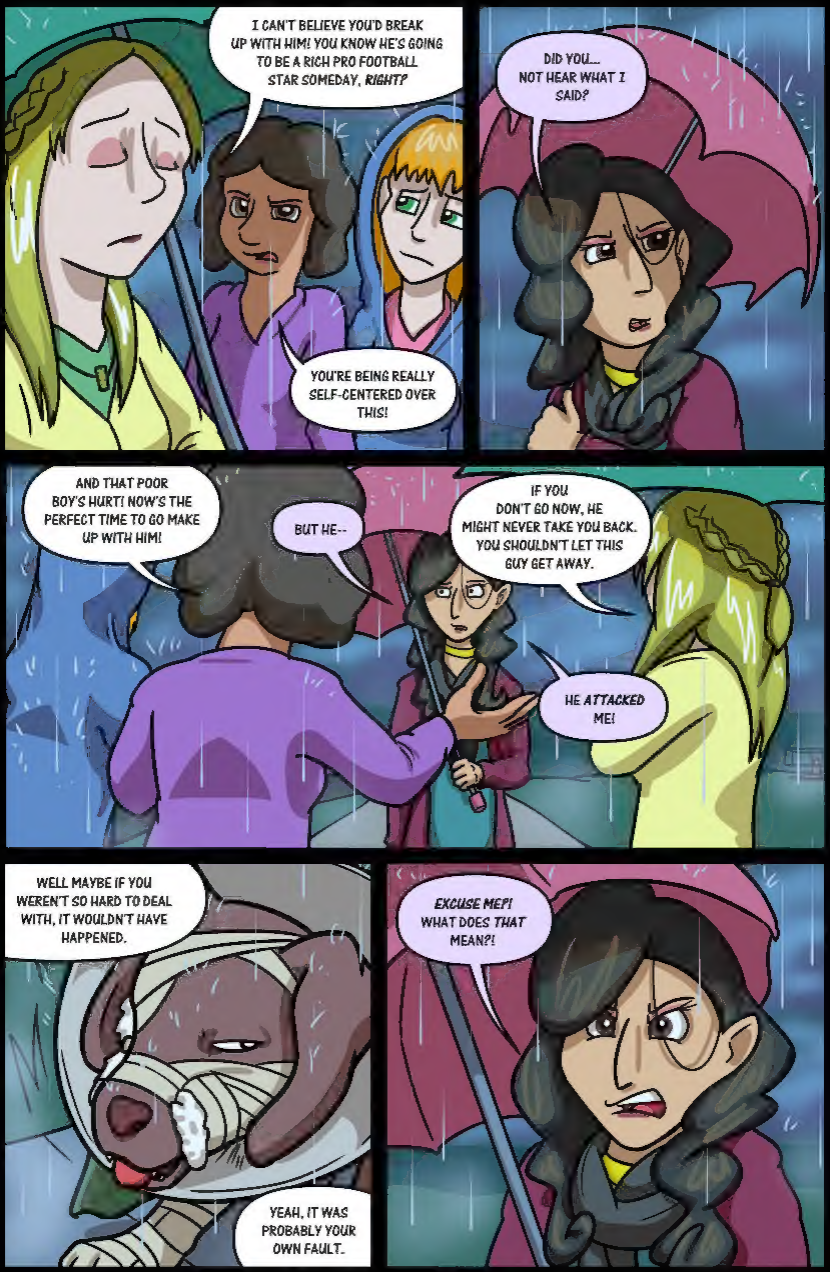
THAT FRIDAY...
GOOD AFTERNOON, DOCTOR. HOW IS HE DOING...?
AH, HELLO MR. LARSON. GABRIEL'S SURGERY WENT WELL. HE'S AWAKE AND RESPONSIVE NOW, BUT STILL A BIT WOOZY.
HOW LONG WILL HE NEED TO STAY HERE?
"HE SHOULD REST HERE A FEW MORE DAYS, THEN HE'LL NEED PHYSICAL THERAPY FOR SEVERAL WEEKS AFTER THAT."
"ALRIGHT... BUT THIS WON'T KEEP HIM FROM FROM PLAYING FOOTBALL NEXT SEASON, WILL IT?"
"I'M SORRY, BUT NO. HE ABSOLUTELY SHOULD NOT BE PLAYING ANY SPORTS NEXT YEAR. AND WITH HIS CONCUSSION, I'D ADVISE HE DOESN'T PLAY FOOTBALL AGAIN AT ALL."
"CONCUSSION?! I THOUGHT YOU SAID HE JUST TORE HIS SHOULDER?"
"AS I TOLD YOU BEFORE, HE'S SUFFERED A CONCUSSION, TORN SHOULDER LIGAMENTS, A COUPLE BROKEN RIBS--"
"WHY CAN'T HE PLAY FOOTBALL?! HE NEEDS TO FOR HIS SCHOLARSHIPS!"
"CONCUSSIONS ARE VERY SERIOUS. IF HE WERE TO SUFFER ANOTHER WHILE PLAYING, HE COULD DIE. THEY AREN'T THAT UNCOMMON IN FOOTBALL."
"...HAVE YOU TOLD HIM?"
"YES, WE'VE ALREADY GONE OVER IT WITH HIM."
Get Well Soon!
Get Well Soon!

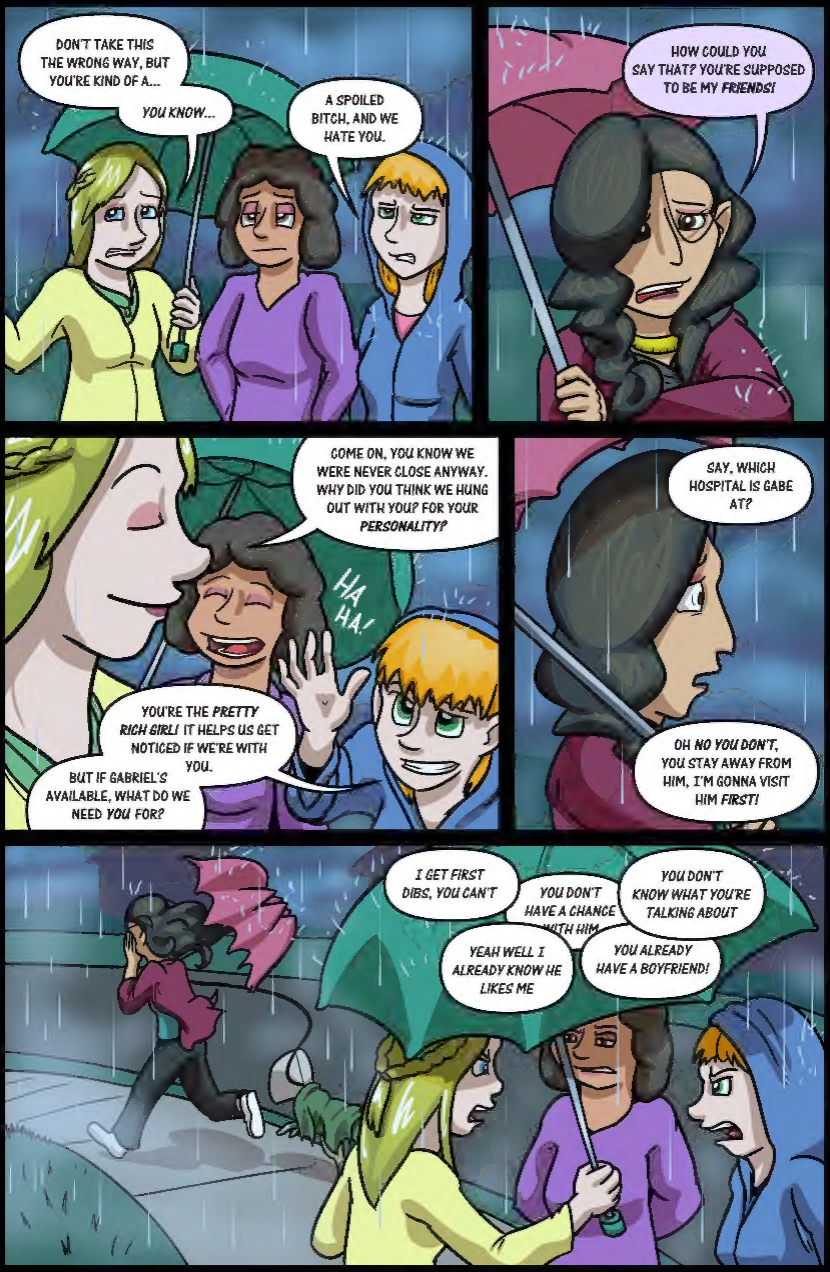
GOD DAMN IT, I KNOW THAT FREAK DID THIS. BUT... HOW?
THE LAST THING I REMEMBER, I WAS FOLLOWING HIM INTO THE STAIRWELL.
DID HE PUSH ME OVER THE RAILING...? HOW COULD HE? HE'S WAY TOO SMALL TO DO THAT TO ME.
THIS DOESN'T MAKE SENSE.
THIS DOESN'T FUCKING MAKE SENSE!

Gabey
CALL

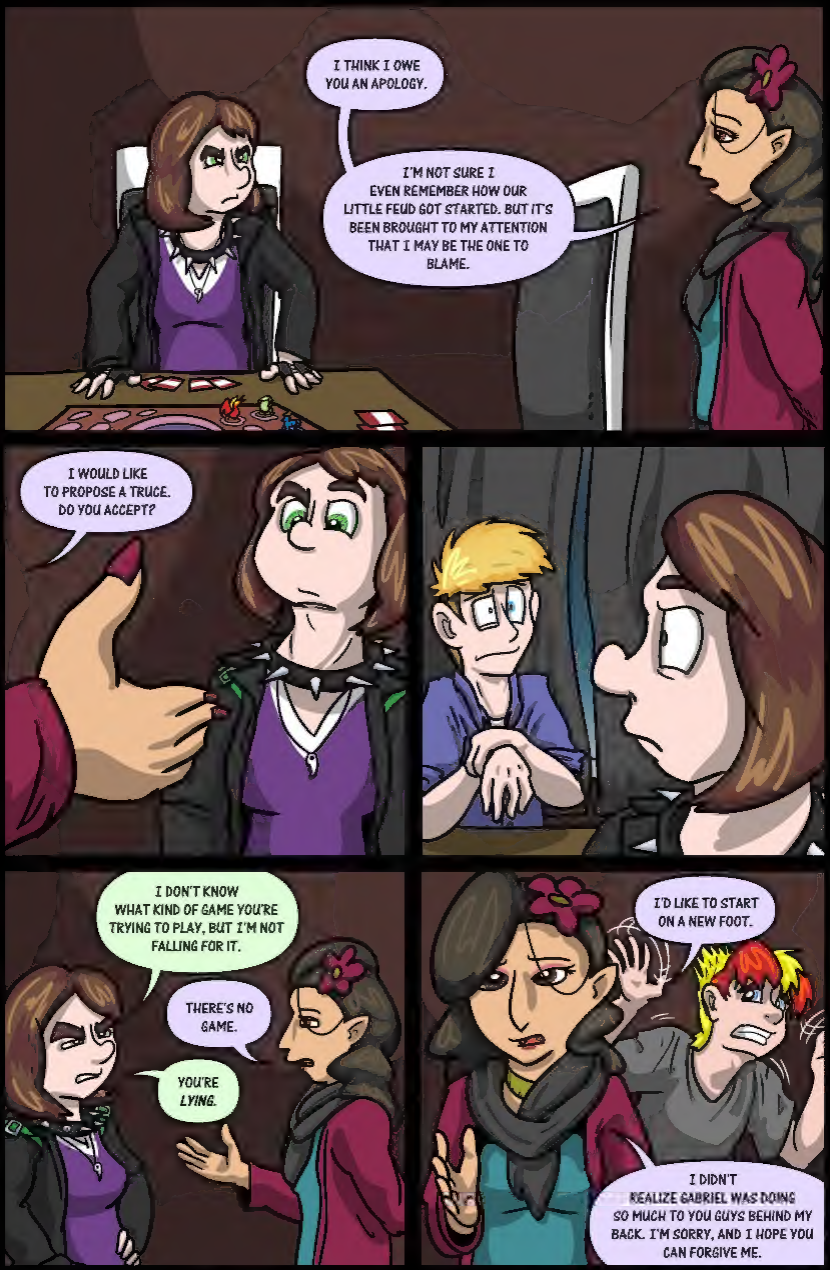
GOD, I HATE ALL THIS RAIN. IT'S JUST BEEN *POURING* THE LAST FEW DAYS.
I LOVE IT! IT'S REALLY PRETTY AND RELAXING!
DOESN'T MEAN I WANNA BE *SOAKED* EVERY DAY.
TERRY, WE BROUGHT A GAME! IT'S A LOT OF FUN, I THINK YOU'LL LIKE IT!
I IMMEDIATELY HATE IT.
BLITZ PHOENIX
TABLETOP STRATEGY
WE BROUGHT *OTHER* GAMES TOO, MARK JUST WANTS TO PLAY THIS ONE FIRST.
I *PROMISE* IT'S FUN!
... YOU ALRIGHT?

Y-YEAH, I'M FINE.
IS THIS THE SAME CRAP AS BEFORE?
LOOK, YOU MANAGED TO MAKE IT THE REST OF THE WEEK AND NO COPS HAVE SHOWED UP FOR YOU, RIGHT? YOU NEED TO CALM DOWN A BIT.
BUT AMANDA OR HAZARD COULD STILL SHOW UP AT ANY TIME.
AND YOU'RE JUST GONNA BE SITTING ON YOUR ASS HERE WAITING FOR THEM, RIGHT?
SO THERE'S NO REASON WE CAN'T PLAY A FEW GAMES AND TAKE YOUR MIND OFF IT?
IF YOU WANT, WE CAN TRY BRAINSTORMING SOME OTHER IDEAS FOR YOU AGAIN, BUT YOU NEED TO CLEAR YOUR HEAD FIRST. YOU MAKE CRAP CHOICES WHEN YOU'RE STRESSED.
... FINE, HOW DO WE PLAY?


I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'D BREAK UP WITH HIM! YOU KNOW HE'S GOING TO BE A RICH PRO FOOTBALL STAR SOMEDAY, RIGHT?
YOU'RE BEING REALLY SELF-CENTERED OVER THIS!
DID YOU... NOT HEAR WHAT I SAID?
AND THAT POOR BOY'S HURT! NOW'S THE PERFECT TIME TO GO MAKE UP WITH HIM!
BUT HE--
IF YOU DON'T GO NOW, HE MIGHT NEVER TAKE YOU BACK. YOU SHOULDN'T LET THIS GUY GET AWAY.
HE ATTACKED ME!
WELL MAYBE IF YOU WEREN'T SO HARD TO DEAL WITH, IT WOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED.
YEAH, IT WAS PROBABLY YOUR OWN FAULT.
EXCUSE ME?! WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?!


DON'T TAKE THIS THE WRONG WAY, BUT YOU'RE KIND OF A...
YOU KNOW...
A SPOILED BITCH, AND WE HATE YOU.
HOW COULD YOU SAY THAT? YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE MY FRIENDS!
COME ON, YOU KNOW WE WERE NEVER CLOSE ANYWAY. WHY DID YOU THINK WE HUNG OUT WITH YOU? FOR YOUR PERSONALITY?
HA HA!
YOU'RE THE PRETTY RICH GIRL! IT HELPS US GET NOTICED IF WE'RE WITH YOU.
BUT IF GABRIEL'S AVAILABLE, WHAT DO WE NEED YOU FOR?
SAY, WHICH HOSPITAL IS GABE AT?
OH NO YOU DON'T, YOU STAY AWAY FROM HIM, I'M GONNA VISIT HIM FIRST!
I GET FIRST DIBS, YOU CAN'T
YOU DON'T HAVE A CHANCE WITH HIM
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT
YEAH WELL I ALREADY KNOW HE LIKES ME
YOU ALREADY HAVE A BOYFRIEND!

HM? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
IS THAT NATALYA'S CAR? IS SHE HERE?
WHY?
I WANT TO TALK TO HER.
I DOUBT SHE WANTS TO TALK TO YOU.
THEN I'LL CONVINCE HER.
Oof!
NATALYA, MAY I HAVE A WORD?
WHAT THE CRAP--?
TERRY, WHAT DID YOU LET HER IN FOR?
YOU HAVE SOME NERVE SHOWING UP HERE! GET LOST!
Tch! YOU DON'T EVEN CARE WHY I'M HERE?
NO, GET OUT OF HERE.


I THINK I OWE YOU AN APOLOGY.
I'M NOT SURE I EVEN REMEMBER HOW OUR LITTLE FEUD GOT STARTED. BUT IT'S BEEN BROUGHT TO MY ATTENTION THAT I MAY BE THE ONE TO BLAME.
I WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE A TRUCE. DO YOU ACCEPT?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF GAME YOU'RE TRYING TO PLAY, BUT I'M NOT FALLING FOR IT.
THERE'S NO GAME.
YOU'RE LYING.
I'D LIKE TO START ON A NEW FOOT.
I DIDN'T REALIZE GABRIEL WAS DOING SO MUCH TO YOU GUYS BEHIND MY BACK. I'M SORRY, AND I HOPE YOU CAN FORGIVE ME.

LOOK, WE DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO DO WITH YOU, SO WHY DON'T YOU--
APOLOGY ACCEPTED!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
THIS IS SOME SORT OF TRICK, SHE CAN'T BE SERIOUS
IF SHE'S REALLY SORRY, THEN WE SHOULD FORGIVE HER.
EVERYONE DESERVES A SECOND CHANCE.
THAT DOESN'T MEAN I TOTALLY TRUST HER, THOUGH

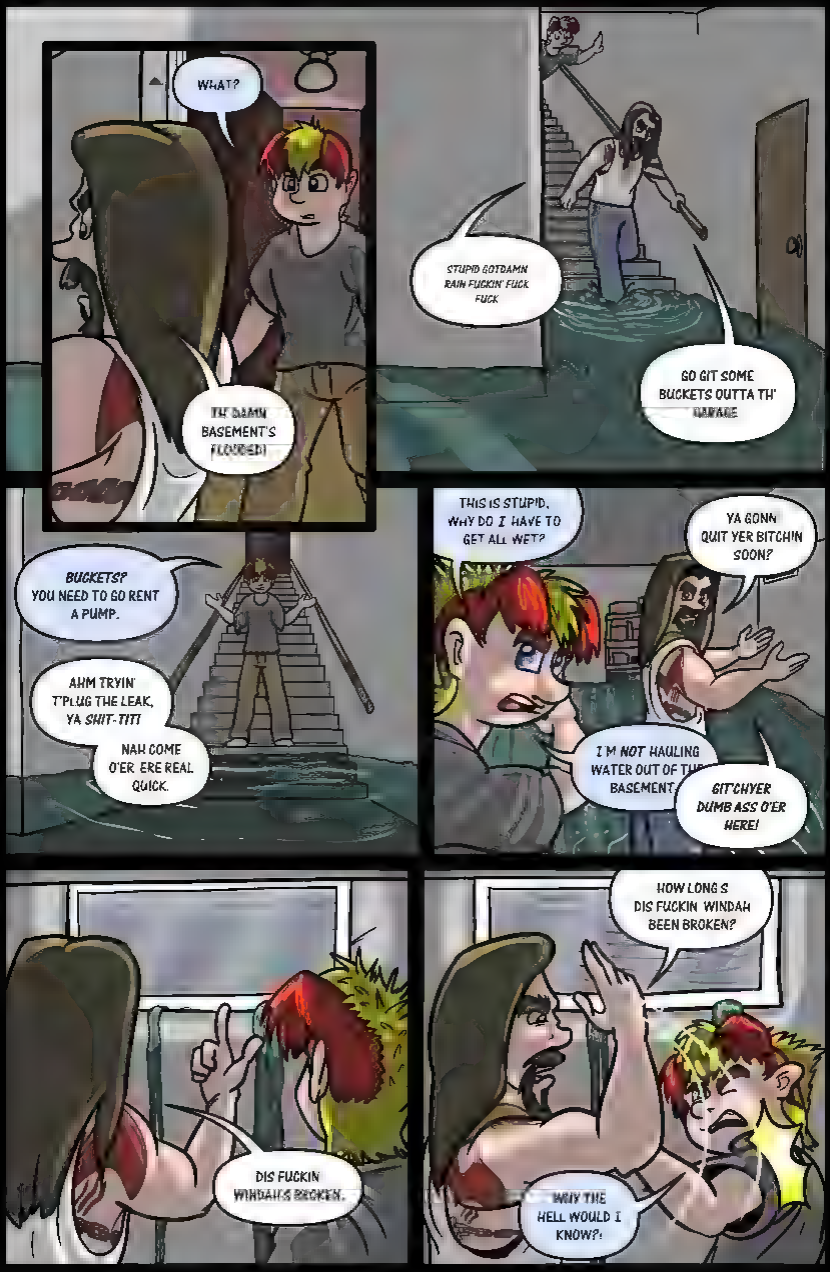
THANK YOU, MARK. I'M GOING TO TALK TO MY FATHER AND SEE IF HE'LL REPLACE YOUR WINDOWS
I DON'T GET AN APOLOGY? GABE TRIED TO BEAT ME UP, YOU KNOW
YOU SET MY DOG ON FIRE.
OH. I DID NOT
BUT I FORGIVE YOU. AND THAT'S THE BEST I CAN GIVE YOU RIGHT NOW.
JUST DON'T DO IT AGAIN.

OH, ARE YOU PLAYING A GAME?
YOU GOT YOUR APOLOGIES OUT OF THE WAY. WHY DON'T YOU LEAVE?
BUT IT LOOKS FUN! COULD I JOIN YOU?
UH, IT'S ONLY FOR THREE PEOPLE, SORRY
BUT THE BOX SAYS "UP TO *FOUR* PLAYERS"
AND LOOK! THERE'S EVEN A CUTE SNAKEY GUY STILL IN HERE!
THAT'S ARIEL. SHE'S A *DRAGON*.
OH! I DIDN'T KNOW DRAGONS COULD BE SO *PRETTY*!
UM, I GUESS YOU CAN PLAY IF YOU WANT

I'M TELLING YOU, IT'S THAT BLITZER KID.
I TALKED TO THE COPS AND THEY SAID HE'S UNDER INVESTIGATION, BUT THAT THERE'S NO WAY HE COULD HAVE BEEN OVER THERE WHEN I GOT KNOCKED OUT
THEY'RE NOT GONNA DO SHIT! AND I CAN'T REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED! THEY'RE SAYING MY HEAD'S TOO FUCKED UP
I BELIEVE YOU, DUDE. YOU WANT ME TO GET HIM FOR YA?
NO I WANT HIM.
ARE YOU SURE? AREN'T YOU STILL IN THE HOSPITAL?
I CAN WALK
MY ONE ARM'S MOSTLY OKAY
I'M GONNA LOSE MY SCHOLARSHIPS, MY SHOT TO PLAY PRO FOOTBALL--
THE ONLY THING I'M GOOD AT IS SPORTS! I'VE NEVER BEEN GOOD AT BOOKS AND SHIT! AND THEY ACTUALLY TOLD ME NOT TO PLAY EVER AGAIN!
MY LIFE IS RUINED!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT FUCKING TRICK BLITZER PULLED, BUT HE'S GONNA PAY FOR IT.
YOUR DAD COLLECTS GUNS, RIGHT?
UH... YEAH, BUT
YOU KNOW BLITZER'S REAL NAME, RIGHT? GO LOOK UP WHERE HE LIVES

AIGHT KIDS.
IF A CROOKED GUY SHOWS UP ASKIN' 'BOUT AN OL' BUICK, LOCK THE DOOR AN' CALL THE COPS
AIN'T YOU FELIX'S KID?
THAT'S ME
HE DIDN' SEND YEH O'ER ERE T'DO SOMETHIN' WEIRD, LIKE SHIT IN MAH FRIDGE OR NUTTIN', DID 'E?
WHAT?!
NO!
KEEP YER EYE ON AT ONE. DUN LET ER GO IN ANY ROOMS BY ERSELF

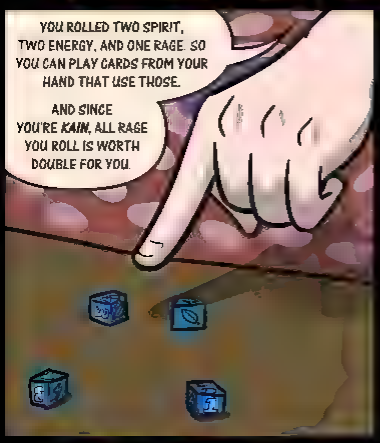
BUT AHM SERIOUS 'BOUT THAT DUDE AT TH' DOOR ONE O YOU KIDS GOTTA PHONE, RIGHT?
YOU WANT ME TO CALL THE COPS ON MY PHONE?
IF 'E SHOWS UP WE DUN GOT ONE 'ERE.
NOT EVEN A LANDLINE?! WHY DON'T YOU HAVE A PHONE?
CAUSE D'EN PEOPLE WOULD CALL ME, SMARTASS!
LIKE ANYONE WOULD WANT TO TALK TO HIM, ANYWAY
HO-LY SHIT!
TERRY, GIT'CHO ASS O'ER 'ERE!


WHAT?
TH' DAMN BASEMENT'S FLOODED!
STUPID GOTDAMN RAIN FUCKIN' FUCK FUCK
GO GIT SOME BUCKETS OUTTA TH' GARAGE
BUCKETS? YOU NEED TO GO RENT A PUMP.
AHM TRYIN' T'PLUG THE LEAK, YA SHIT-TIT!
NAH COME O'ER ERE REAL QUICK.
THIS IS STUPID. WHY DO I HAVE TO GET ALL WET?
YA GONN QUIT YER BITCHIN SOON?
I'M NOT HAULING WATER OUT OF TH BASEMENT.
GIT'CHYER DUMB ASS O'ER HERE!
DIS FUCKIN WINDAH'S BROKEN.
HOW LONG S DIS FUCKIN WINDAH BEEN BROKEN?
WHY THE HELL WOULD I KNOW?!

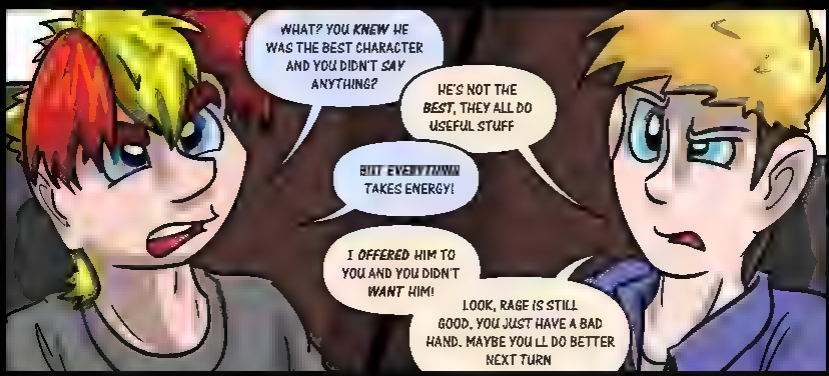
TH' FUCKIN WINDAH SILL S WORN DOWN AN LOOSE A BIT
TH' WELL AIN'T DRAININ' SO TH' WATAH JUST COME IN.
WHERE S DEM BUCKETS?
YOU TOLD ME TO STAND HERE! AND I M NOT HAULING WATER!
YOU LIVE ERE FO' FREE, YA FUCKIN' CIRCUS REJECT!
NOT LIKE IT'S TOUGH FER YA, EVEN!
THAT DOESN'T MEAN I'M GONNA WASTE MY TIME DOING SOMETHING STUPID.
WON' BE SO STUPID WHEN AH SLAP YA SIDEWAYS, YA FREELOADIN' MACAW
GO RENT A PUMP!
DON YA TELL ME WHAT T'DO! BUT AH WILL!
YOU STILL GIT DEM BUCKETS!

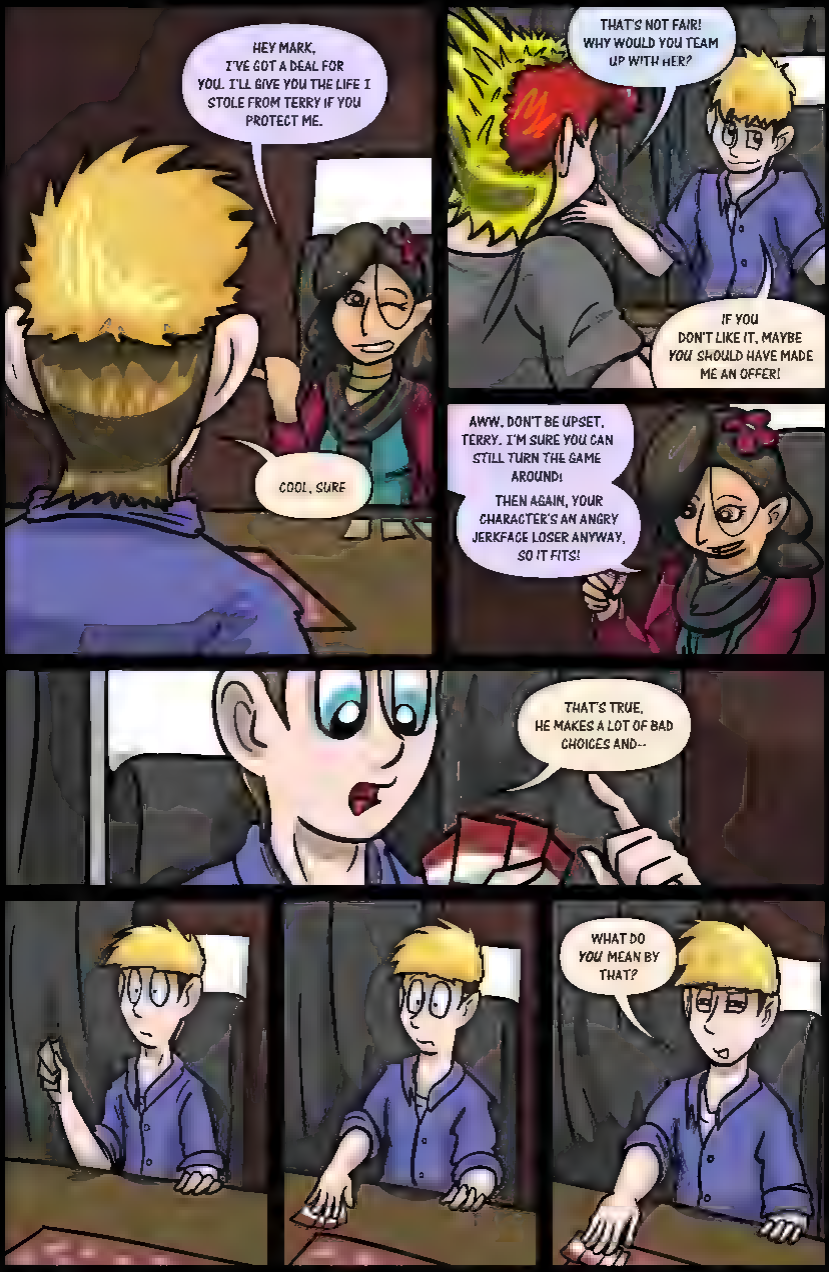
NAH NONE O' Y'ALL FUCKERS BETTAH EAT MAH FOOD, Y'HEAR?
FUCK HIM. I'M NOT CARRYING WATER.
SO IF YOU GUYS DON'T HAVE PHONES HERE, I GUESS YOU DON'T HAVE PHONE CHARGERS?
NAH, WE DON'T
I FORGOT TO CHARGE MY PHONE AND MARK DIDN'T BRING HIS FAMILY CELL. YOU DON'T HAVE A USB CORD, OR...
SOME WAY I COULD CHARGE IT?
NO. THAT GUY PROBABLY WON'T SHOW UP ANYWAY. HE NEVER DOES.
PRETTY SURE CHARLIE MAKES HIM UP TO TRY TO SCARE ME.
YOU SURE. THERE'S NO OTHER WAY YOU COULD MAYBE CHARGE IT?
LOOK. I'VE NEVER DONE THAT BEFORE. I DON'T THINK YOU WANT ME TO TEST IT ON YOUR PHONE.
CAN'T YOU JUST
I'LL PROBABLY BREAK IT. NAT AND DON'T BRING THIS SHIT UP IN FRONT OF HER.

WOULD YOU HURRY UP? IT'S YOUR TURN
CLAK
CLAK
CLAK
CLAK
CLAK
OKAY WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?


YOU ROLLED TWO SPIRIT, TWO ENERGY, AND ONE RAGE. SO YOU CAN PLAY CARDS FROM YOUR HAND THAT USE THOSE.
AND SINCE YOU'RE *KAIN*, ALL RAGE YOU ROLL IS WORTH DOUBLE FOR YOU.

BUT MOST OF THESE CARDS LOOK LIKE THEY TAKE ENERGY. THAT DOESN'T HELP ME MUCH
TAKEO GIVES DOUBLE ENERGY. SO IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANTED, YOU SHOULD HAVE PICKED HIM.


WHAT? YOU *KNEW* HE WAS THE BEST CHARACTER AND YOU DIDN'T *SAY* ANYTHING?
HE'S NOT THE *BEST*, THEY ALL DO USEFUL STUFF
BUT *EVERYTHING* TAKES ENERGY!
I *OFFERED* HIM TO YOU AND YOU DIDN'T *WANT* HIM!
LOOK, RAGE IS STILL GOOD, YOU JUST HAVE A BAD HAND. MAYBE YOU'LL DO BETTER NEXT TURN

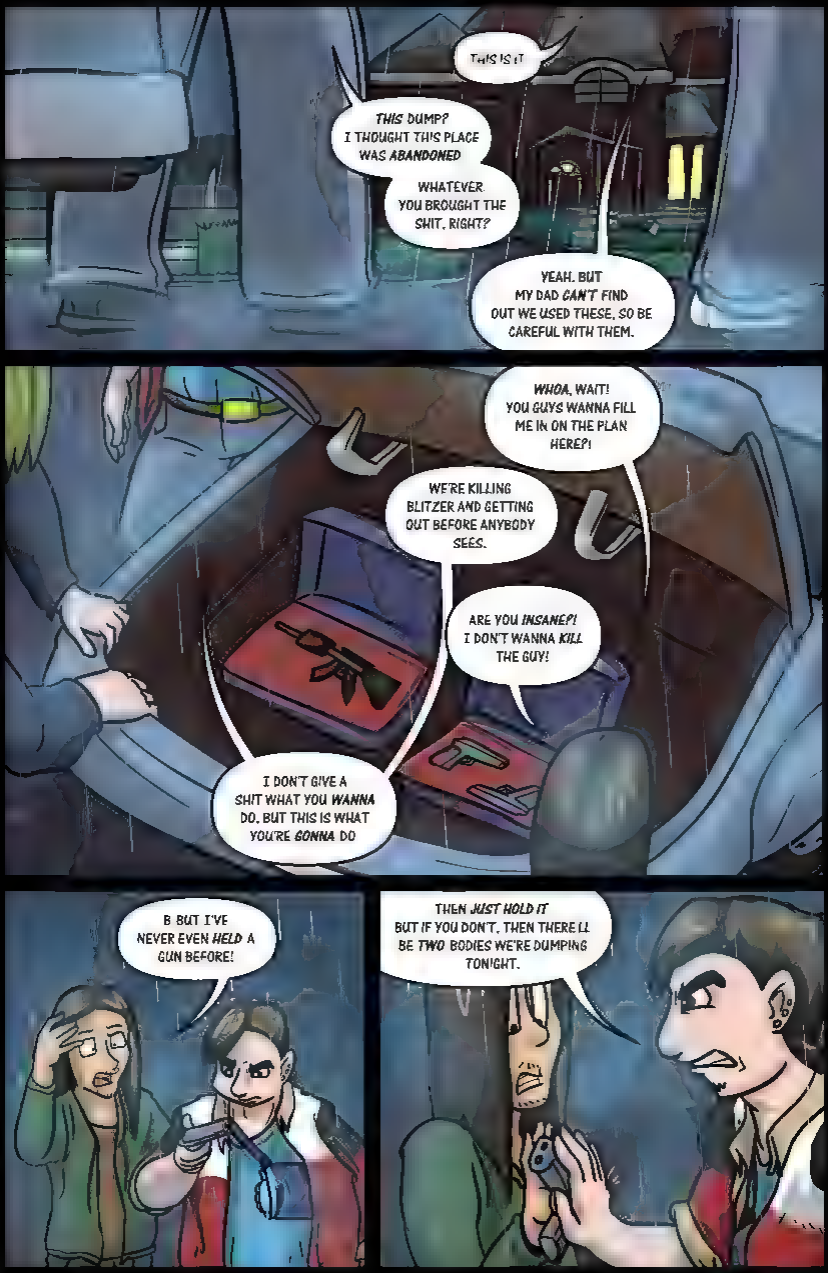

HEY MARK,
I'VE GOT A DEAL FOR YOU. I'LL GIVE YOU THE LIFE I STOLE FROM TERRY IF YOU PROTECT ME.
COOL, SURE
THAT'S NOT FAIR! WHY WOULD YOU TEAM UP WITH HER?
IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, MAYBE *YOU* SHOULD HAVE MADE ME AN OFFER!
AWW, DON'T BE UPSET, TERRY. I'M SURE YOU CAN STILL TURN THE GAME AROUND!
THEN AGAIN, YOUR CHARACTER'S AN ANGRY JERKFACE LOSER ANYWAY, SO IT FITS!
THAT'S TRUE, HE MAKES A LOT OF BAD CHOICES AND--
WHAT DO *YOU* MEAN BY THAT?

DO YOU KNOW THE CHARACTERS?
YOU'RE NOT ACTUALLY A FAN, ARE YOU?
N NO. I I MEAN NOT REALLY
OKAY, FINE, MAYBE I WATCHED IT IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, BUT--
ARE YOU SERIOUSLY YIN LIKE BLITZ PHOENIX?!
NO. IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK!
IS THIS FUCKING REAL? AM I DREAMING?
DOES THIS MEAN WE HAVE TO BE FRIENDS WITH HER NOW?
I MEAN. THIS IS WHY MARK WANTED TO BE FRIENDS WITH YOU, SO...

SHE'S NOT ANSWERING HER PHONE. WHY IS SHE IGNORING ME?
SO ... I COULDN'T FIND ANY ADDRESSES FOR BREYKENS ONLINE. AND THEY AREN'T IN THE PHONE BOOK EITHER.
WHAT'S A PHONE BOOK?
BUT I ASKED AROUND, AND SOME GUYS HEARD HE LIVES RIGHT NEXT TO JESSIE.

HE'S WHERE?! JESSIE NEVER TOLD ME THAT!
WHY WOULDN'T
WAIT, WAIT! DID SHE BREAK UP WITH ME?!
I THINK SHE BROKE UP WITH ME BECAUSE SHE TALKED TO THAT FUCKING NERD!
UH... YEAH? DID YOU FORGET OR SOMETHING?
HE SMASHED HIS HEAD, DUDE.
THIS ALL MAKES SENSE NOW! HE'S PROBABLY BEEN TALKING TO HER FOR MONTHS!
HE WAS RIGHT THERE THE WHOLE TIME, TRYING TO STEAL MY GIRL!
TRYING, OR DID?
IT WON'T MATTER IN AN HOUR

SO, YOU SPENT ALL THESE YEARS HARASSING US BECAUSE MARK LIKES THIS CARTOON, BUT YOU'VE BEEN A CLOSET FAN THIS WHOLE TIME?
..AND NOW YOU'RE HERE AND SUDDENLY YOU WANT TO APOLOGIZE AND PLAY GAMES WITH US?
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO PULL HERE? HOW MUCH TIME DID YOU SPEND LOOKING UP THIS SHOW JUST TO COME OVER AND TRICK US?
I'M NOT PULLING ANYTHING, I ALREADY TOLD YOU
I'VE JUST .. BEEN DOING A LOT OF THINKING LATELY
THE PEOPLE THAT ARE SUPPOSED TO CARE ABOUT ME ARE JUST PRETENDING TO, SO THEY CAN GET WHAT THEY WANT FROM ME.
I COULDN'T SAY I LIKE THIS STUFF TO THEM EVEN IF I WANTED TO. THEY'D NEVER ACCEPT ME.
BUT YOU GUYS JUST .. WELL, YOU DO WHAT YOU WANT AND BE WHO YOU ARE. AND I'M JEALOUS OF THAT
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I'VE HAD ANY REAL FRIENDS. BUT I DIDN'T REALIZE IT UNTIL THE LAST WEEK.
SO. THANK YOU FOR LETTING ME SIT IN ON YOUR GAME.


THIS IS IT
THIS DUMP? I THOUGHT THIS PLACE WAS ABANDONED
WHATEVER. YOU BROUGHT THE SHIT, RIGHT?
YEAH. BUT MY DAD CAN'T FIND OUT WE USED THESE, SO BE CAREFUL WITH THEM.
WHOA, WAIT! YOU GUYS WANNA FILL ME IN ON THE PLAN HERE?!
WE'RE KILLING BLITZER AND GETTING OUT BEFORE ANYBODY SEES.
ARE YOU INSANE?! I DON'T WANNA KILL THE GUY!
I DON'T GIVE A SHIT WHAT YOU WANNA DO. BUT THIS IS WHAT YOU'RE GONNA DO
B BUT I'VE NEVER EVEN HELD A GUN BEFORE!
THEN JUST HOLD IT BUT IF YOU DON'T, THEN THERE'LL BE TWO BODIES WE'RE DUMPING TONIGHT.

YOU SEE THIS SHIT?! HE FUCKING KNEW WE WERE COMING FOR HIS ASS, THAT'S WHY HE PUT THESE DAMN BOARDS UP!
KICK THIS FUCKING DOOR DOWN!
BAM
BAM
HOLY SHIT! I THOUGHT YOU SAID THAT GUY WASN'T REAL, TERRY!
BAM
BAM
STAY HERE.
BAM
BAM

BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
WHAT'S GOING ON?
IT'S GABRIEL! HE'S HERE WITH HIS FRIENDS AND THEY'VE ALL GOT GUNS!

WHAT'S TAKING SO LONG?
I THINK THEY PUT SOMETHING BEHIND THE DOOR
OH FUCK THIS
TAK TAK TAK
TAK TAK
KSSH
KSSH
KSSH
KSSH
KSSH
KSSH
RUN!

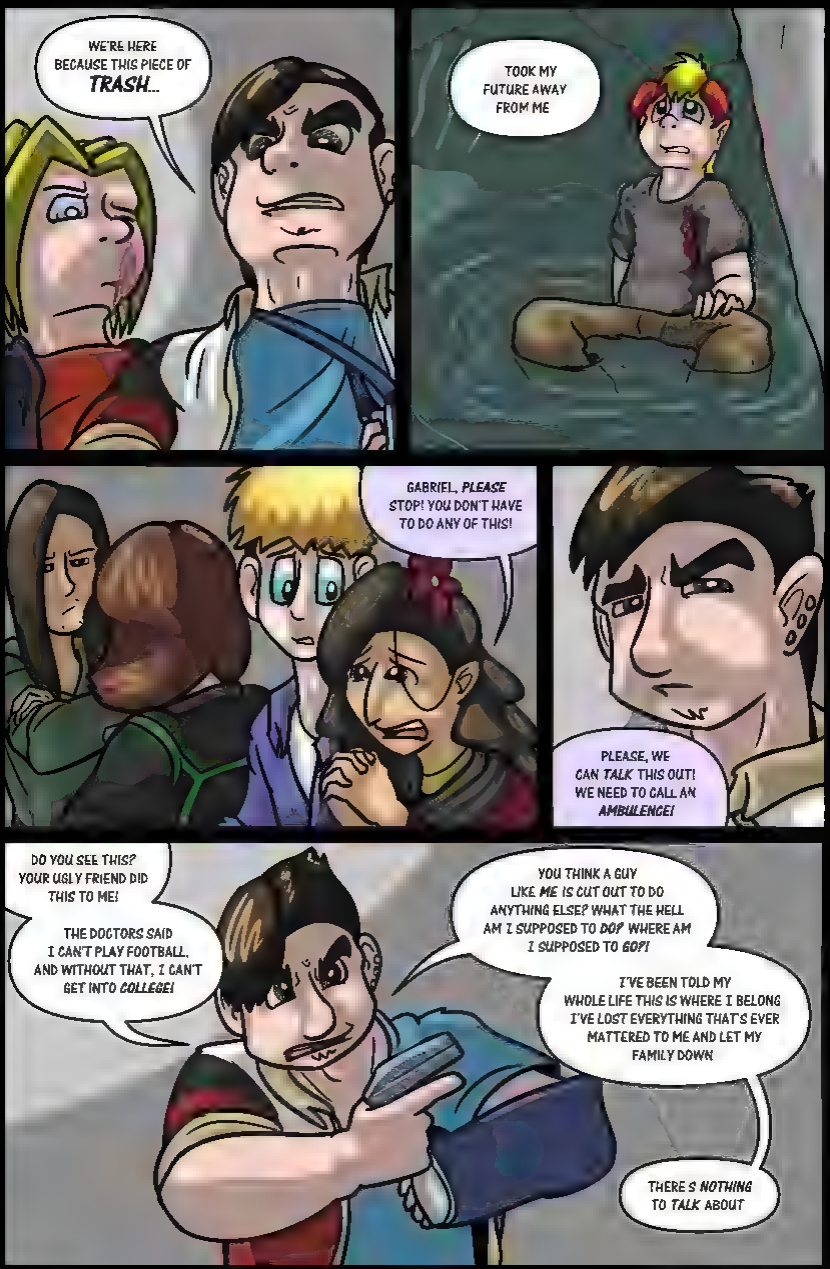
TERRY, WHAT ARE YOU--
JUST FUCKING MOVE!
FIND SOMEWHERE TO HIDE!
WHATEVER! THIS DOOR'S LOCKED AND THIS BASEMENT'S EMPTY. THERE'S NOTHING TO HIDE BEHIND DOWN HERE!
IS THIS YOUR PLAN? JUST HIDE?
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?!
ZAP THEM OR SOMETHING!
DON'T SAY THAT WITH HER HERE-
I GIVE NO SHITS RIGHT NOW, TERRY!
YOU NEED TO STOP THEM!
YOU WERE THE ONE GIVING ME SHIT ABOUT NOT CONTROLLING MYSELF!
I DON'T WANT TO DIE BECAUSE YOU WERE DRAGGING YOUR FEET!
WE'RE NOT REALLY GOING TO DIE, ARE WE?

FINE, YOU WIN
BUT I'M NOT ZAPPING ANYONE WITH ALL THIS WATER HERE.
ALRIGHT YOU IDIOTS.
NONE OF YOU MOVE--

SHIT SHIT SHIT!
GIVE ME ANOTHER MAGAZINE.
DUDE, YOU COULD'A SHOT ME! AND WHAT THE FUCK YOU UNLOADING ON DOORS FOR?
JUST SHUT UP AND GIVE ME ANOTHER MAGAZINE.
I DIDN'T BRING ANOTHER
WHAT? I TOLD YOU TO BRING FUCKING AMMO!
DUDE, MY DAD CAN'T FIND OUT I SWIPED HIS SHIT. HE'LL KILL ME!
YEAH? AND WHAT ABOUT YOUR TEETH?
I'M FUCKED. I DIDN'T EVEN SEE HIM MOVE.
JUST A CHEAP SHOT
NO, IT'S WHAT I TOLD YOU. THERE'S SOMETHING WEIRD ABOUT HIM.

GIVE ME THAT
JESSICA, WHAT THE FUCK ARE YOU DOING HERE?
YOU SERIOUSLY DUMPED ME FOR THIS JOKER?
WHAT?! I BROKE UP WITH YOU BECAUSE YOU ATTACKED ME, GABRIEL!
PLEASE DON'T DO THIS, JUST PUT THE GUNS DOWN!
IT'S TOO LATE FOR THAT, BABE! WE'VE ALREADY MADE A MESS OF YOUR BOY HERE, CAN'T EXACTLY TAKE THAT BACK.
AND SINCE YOU'RE ALL WITNESSES, WE HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF YOU, TOO.
N NO YOU DON'T!

STAY ON THE GROUND!
STOP!!
HE'S STILL ALIVE?
I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU NOT TO TOUCH HIM! HE'S MINE!
HE KNOCKED OUT MY TEETH!
YOUR TEETH! AND DO YOU KNOW WHAT HE DID TO ME?!
BECAUSE I ALREADY TOLD YOU WHY WE'RE HERE!
TAKEO, DID YOU SAY YOU HAD THAT HYPER MODE THING?
I HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO TEST IT, BUT IT IS USABLE
I CANNOT GUARANTEE IT WILL WORK


WE'RE HERE BECAUSE THIS PIECE OF TRASH...
TOOK MY FUTURE AWAY FROM ME
GABRIEL, PLEASE STOP! YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO ANY OF THIS!
PLEASE, WE CAN TALK THIS OUT! WE NEED TO CALL AN AMBULENCE!
DO YOU SEE THIS? YOUR UGLY FRIEND DID THIS TO ME!
THE DOCTORS SAID I CAN'T PLAY FOOTBALL, AND WITHOUT THAT, I CAN'T GET INTO COLLEGE!
YOU THINK A GUY LIKE ME IS CUT OUT TO DO ANYTHING ELSE? WHAT THE HELL AM I SUPPOSED TO DO? WHERE AM I SUPPOSED TO GO?!
I'VE BEEN TOLD MY WHOLE LIFE THIS IS WHERE I BELONG I'VE LOST EVERYTHING THAT'S EVER MATTERED TO ME AND LET MY FAMILY DOWN
THERE'S NOTHING TO TALK ABOUT

NO, OF COURSE YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! YOU'VE HAD EVERYTHING HANDED TO YOU!
YOU'VE NEVER HAD TO BE GOOD AT SOMETHING, BECAUSE YOU'RE ABLE TO DO WHATEVER YOU WANT
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO WORK YOUR ENTIRE LIFE FOR SOMETHING.
JUST TO SEE IT TORN AWAY FROM YOU BY A NOBODY
DO YOU WANT ME TO ACTIVATE HYPER MODE, BREYKEN?
DO IT
SPLOOSH!

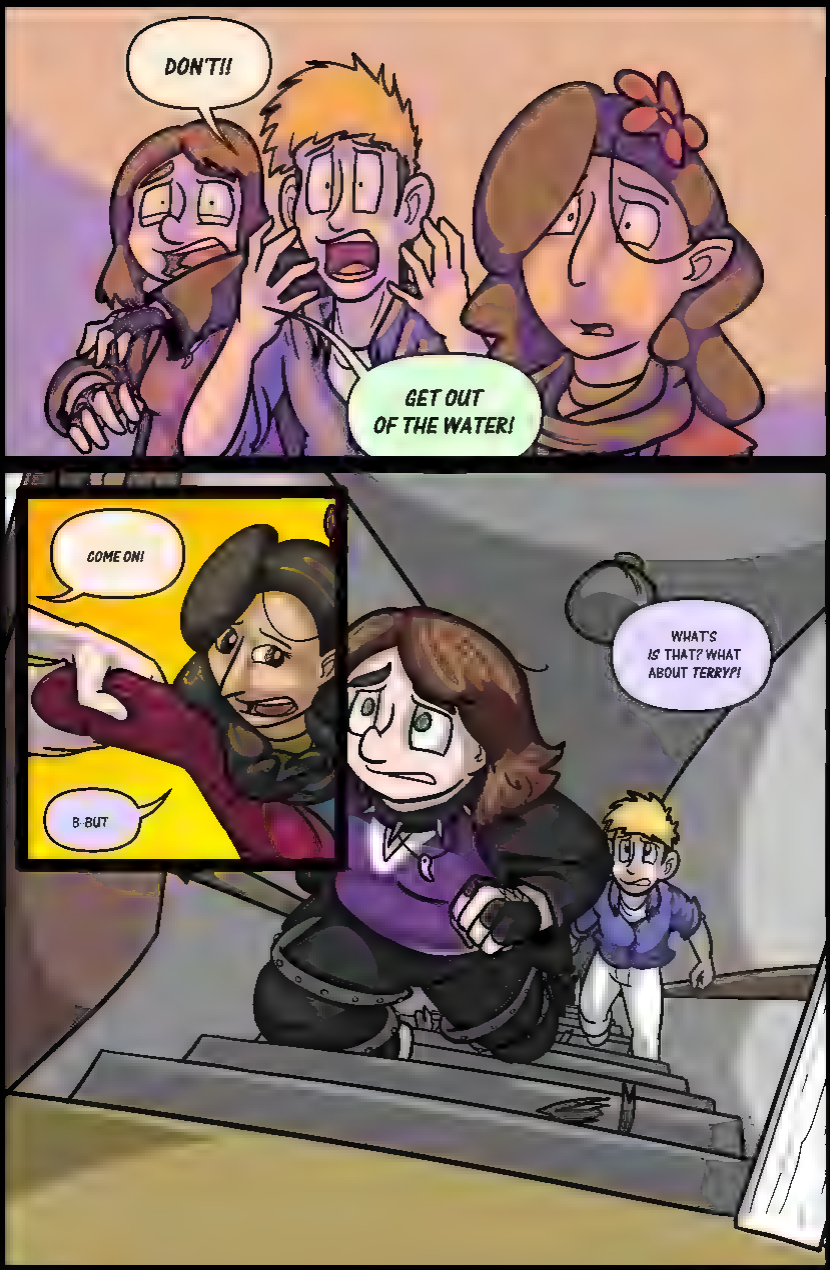
ACTIVATING PILOT OVERRIDE.
ACTIVATING HYPER MODE.
YOU RUINED MY LIFE!
SPLSH

SWOOSH
BMPH
GYAK!
UH, GABE. YOU OKAY, MAN?

WHERE DID THAT... AH!
TAK TAK
BRK
KRTK
FUCK THIS! WE NEED TO GET OUT OF HERE
THNK!

BAM!
CRACK!
SPLSH!
WHAT IN THE WORLD?!
WHAT'S HAPPENING?!

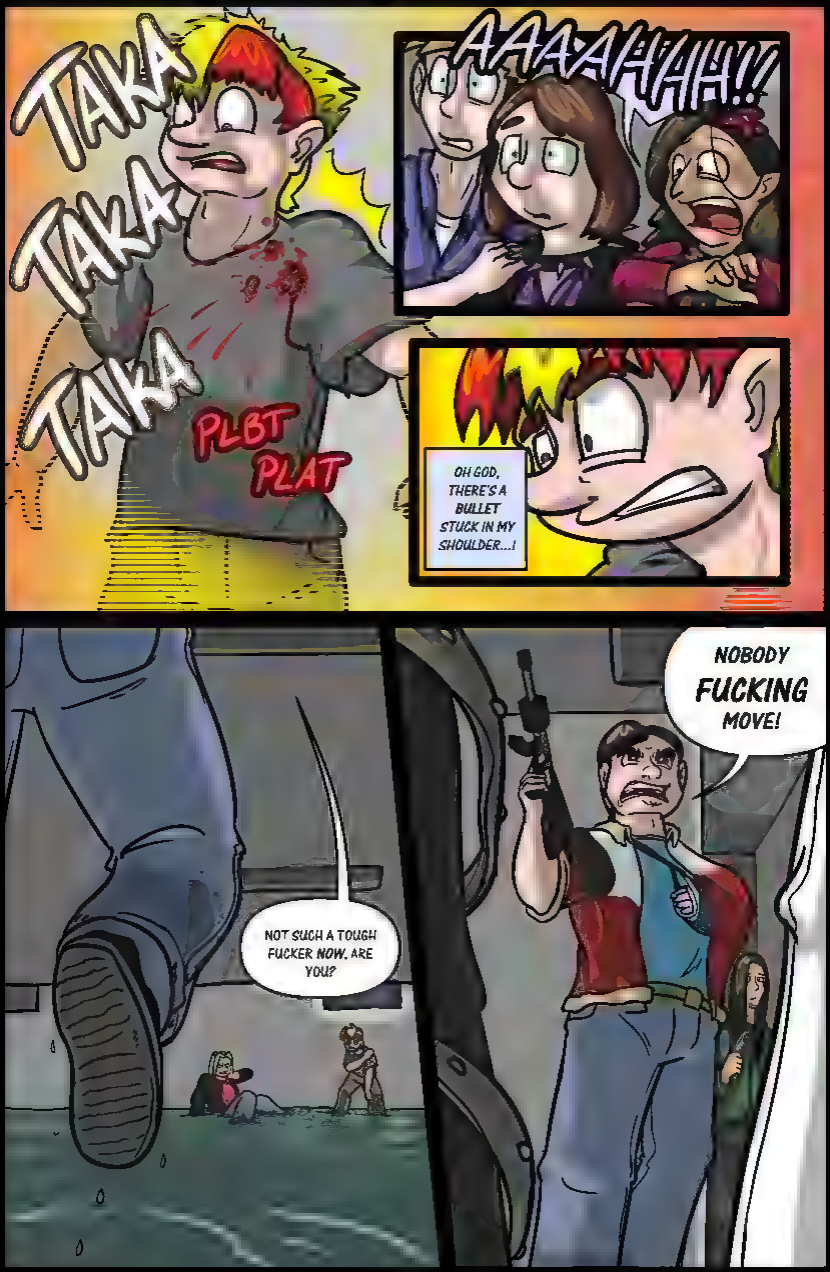
GABRIEL LARSON, CORRECT?
I HAVE BEEN GIVEN EXPLICIT PERMISSION TO DEAL WITH YOU HOW I CHOOSE.
YOU'RE SOME KIND OF MONSTER.
WHAT WE ARE IS OF NO CONCERN OF YOURS.


DON'T!!
GET OUT OF THE WATER!
COME ON!
B-BUT
WHAT'S IS THAT? WHAT ABOUT TERRY?!

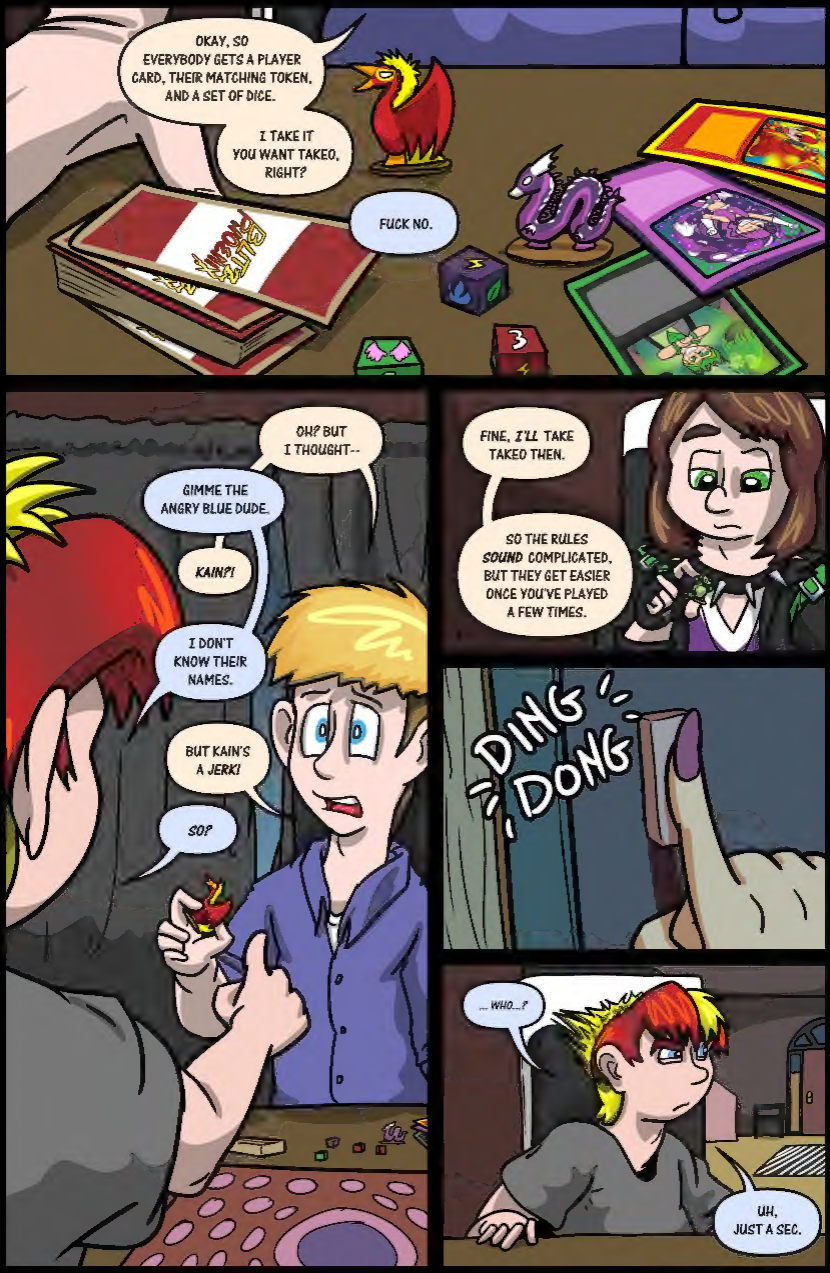
WE NEED TO GET HELP--
KSSH
BZZT
AHH!
KRAK-OW

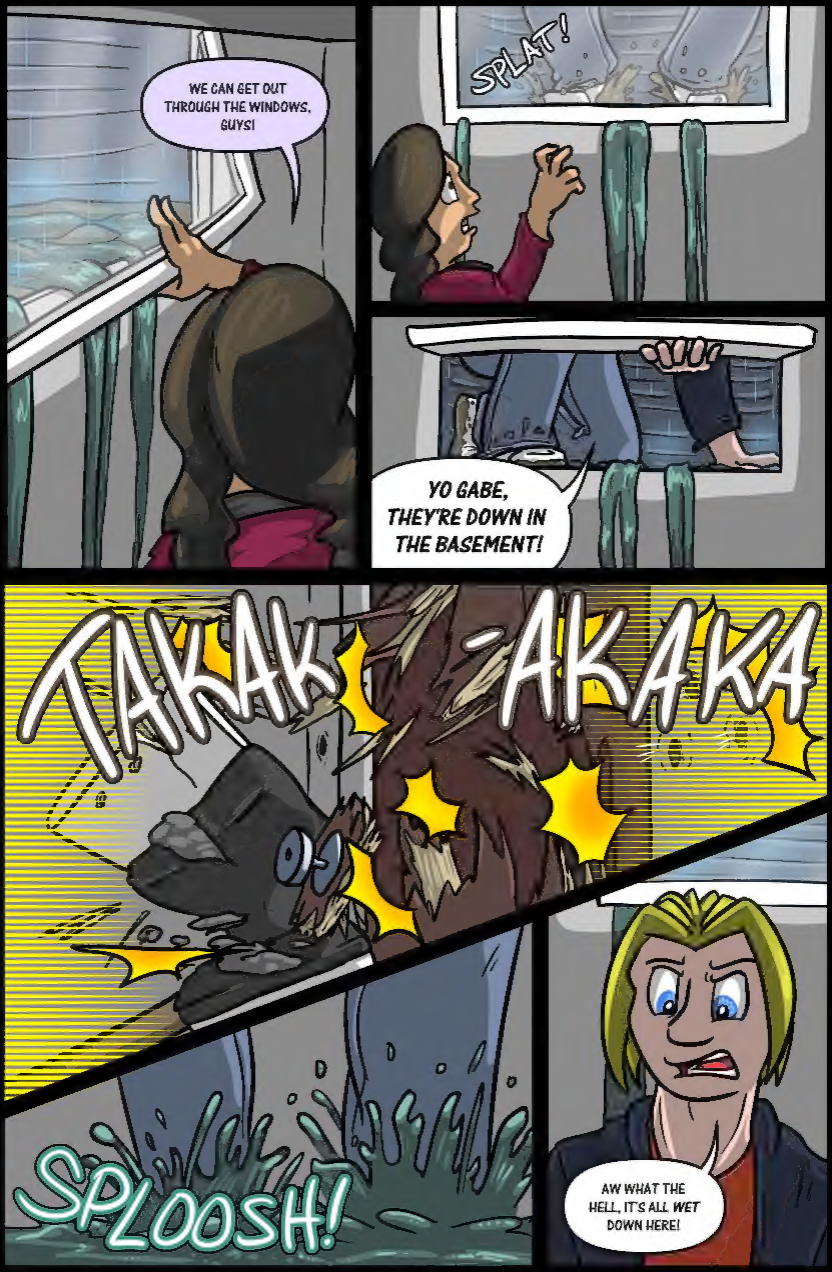
PTOO

BREYKEN, THE THREAT HAS BEEN DEALT WITH
YOU MAY RETAKE CONTROL.
AH, OF COURSE. YOU LIKELY DO NOT KNOW HOW.
THAT IS FINE, YOU WILL FIGURE IT OUT SOON.
SPLSH
END


TAKA
TAKA
TAKA
PLBT
PLAT
AAAAHHHH!!
OH GOD, THERE'S A BULLET STUCK IN MY SHOULDER...!
NOBODY FUCKING MOVE!
NOT SUCH A TOUGH FUCKER NOW, ARE YOU?

ARE YOU ALWAYS SUCH A BUTT? OR IS IT JUST WHEN YOU'RE LOSING?
I'M NOT LOSING
OKAY, SO YOU'RE ALWAYS A BUTT
NO
TAK TAK TAK TAK
WELL, I'M GOING TO PLAY THIS CARD TO STEAL THE ENERGY YOU DIDN'T USE
WHAT?
AND SINCE THAT CARD HAS MY CHARACTER ON IT, IT DOUBLES THE RESOURCES I GET
THEN I'M GOING TO PLAY THIS CARD TO TAKE SOME OF YOUR HEALTH
AND, AGAIN,
HEY!
THEN I'M ATTACKING YOU FOR ANOTHER FIVE HEALTH
WHAT ARE YOU ATTACKING ME FOR? MARK'S THE ONE WHO KNOWS HOW TO PLAY!
MARK'S NOT GONNA FREAK OUT LIKE YOU ARE, THOUGH
BUT HE'S GOT THE ADVANTAGE!
RIGHT, SO YOU'RE EASY PICKINGS


OKAY, SO EVERYBODY GETS A PLAYER CARD, THEIR MATCHING TOKEN, AND A SET OF DICE.
I TAKE IT YOU WANT TAKEO, RIGHT?
FUCK NO.
ELITE PHOENIX
3
OH? BUT I THOUGHT--
GIMME THE ANGRY BLUE DUDE.
KAIN?!
I DON'T KNOW THEIR NAMES.
BUT KAIN'S A JERK!
SO?
FINE, I'LL TAKE TAKEO THEN.
SO THE RULES SOUND COMPLICATED, BUT THEY GET EASIER ONCE YOU'VE PLAYED A FEW TIMES.
DING DONG
... WHO...?
UH, JUST A SEC.


WE CAN GET OUT THROUGH THE WINDOWS, GUYS!
SPLAT!
YO GABE, THEY'RE DOWN IN THE BASEMENT!
TAKAK-AKAKA
SPLOOSH!
AW WHAT THE HELL, IT'S ALL WET DOWN HERE!

HOW COULD THEY SAY ALL THAT?! WHAT DO THEY THINK THEY ARE, ANGELS?!
SOME FRIENDS THEY ARE...
SNIFF!
NEVER REALLY LIKED THEM ANYWAY...
Hrrrrr...
COME ON, LAVENDER, LET'S GET YOU HOME.

UGH, COULD WE HURRY THIS UP? I DIDN'T WANT TO GET DRENCHED BEFORE WE SAW THE MOVIE.
DON'T YOU HAVE, LIKE, A SERVANT THAT WALKS YOUR DOG FOR YOU?
SHE'S MY BABY. I TAKE CARE OF HER. THIS WON'T TAKE LONG.
THAT THING SHOULDN'T EVEN BE OUTISDE, JUST LOOK AT HER.
THE VET SAID IT'S OKAY AS LONG AS WE DON'T PUSH HER TOO MUCH.
HOW'S GABE BEEN DOING?
I DON'T KNOW.
YOU HAVEN'T VISITED HIM OR CALLED?
I... DON'T KNOW IF I SHOULD.
WHY NOT?
I BROKE UP WITH HIM JUST BEFORE HE GOT HURT.
WHAAAT?! ARE YOU CRAZY?!
HOW COULD YOU BREAK UP WITH HIM?!
AND YOU DIDN'T TELL US?!
HE STOLE MY PURSE AND LIED TO ME ABOUT IT. THEN HE GRABBED ME BY MY HAIR AND YELLED AT ME.
I DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO DO WITH HIM, BUT... I DON'T KNOW.